

**SUMMARY OF THE
REGULATORY COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 27, 2000**

The Regulatory Coordination Committee of the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC) met on Tuesday, June 27, 2000, at 3 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) as part of the Sixth NELAC Annual Meeting in Williamsburg, VA. The meeting was led by its chair, Dr. Michael Miller of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. A list of action items is given in Attachment A. A list of participants is given in Attachment B. *The purpose of the meeting was to address proposed agenda items and identify new action items.*

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Miller began with the introduction of new members and a farewell to those departing. Dr. Miller and Mr. Ronald Peters are leaving the committee and joining the committee are Mr. Kevin Coats of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Mr. Bennett Osborn of the Oregon Environmental Laboratory Association. The departure of Dr. Miller will leave the chair position vacant and Dr. Carl Kircher has been proposed as the new chair person and approved unanimously by the voting members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The next item on the agenda was the approval of teleconference minutes from December 16, 1999, February 23, 2000, and April 12, 2000. The December 16, 1999 minutes and the April 12, 2000 minutes were approved as written. The February 23, 2000 minutes were approved with changes made by Ms. Ilona Taunton.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

Infrastructure Problem

The infrastructure problems in state implementation of NELAC consists of two parts, the first one being auditor training. This item was forwarded to the On-site Assessment Committee and has been removed from the Regulatory Coordination Committee's agenda.

National Database

The second item was the national database. This will remain on the agenda as an unresolved issue and the committee will continue to track its progress.

State Regulation

Additional unresolved issues were related to collection of state regulations and legislation for NELAC implementation. Letters were sent to each of the eleven primary accrediting authorities requesting a

copy of their regulations and of the eleven, four have replied. The names of the these four states will be posted as models for other states.

NEW BUSINESS

Drinking Water Methods

A committee member reported that there are several new drinking water methods of which the Accrediting Authority Committee should be made aware of but no details were given with regard to the new methods.

Sample Transportation Issues

Stricter rules on transporting infectious microbiological material have been implemented. The Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board (ELAB) will address the progress made on sample transportation issues by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Transportation.

Clean Air Act

A committee member reported that modifications to the Clean Air Act for hazardous air pollutants are due by November, 2000 and NELAC will need to be aware of any new methods that are introduced.

ISO 17025

Changes to ISO Standard 17025 were sent to Field Activities to determine how they would affect NELAC.

Quality Systems Requirements

The EPA mandatory agency-wide Quality Systems requirements were forwarded by the Regulatory Coordination Committee to the Quality Systems Committee for their review and a response has not yet been received. The web address to view EPA's Quality Systems manual is http://www.epa.gov/quality/qa_dous.html.

Restructuring of the Scope of Accreditation

The last item on the agenda was the restructuring of the Scope of Accreditation. The joint sessions meeting was summarized and the suggestions are listed in the minutes from the Scope of Accreditation.

COMMENTS

The committee then opened the meeting to comments from the floor.

International Accreditation

A participant questioned whether NELAC would offer international accreditation. The committee responded that this is outside the scope of the Regulatory Coordination Committee. There are numerous problems associated with international accreditation because NELAC is a federal-state organization.

Indian Nations' Laboratories

Additional questions were raised on accreditation of Indian Nations' laboratories. This is also outside the scope of the Regulatory Coordination Committee and is being addressed by the Program Policy and Structure Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

**ACTION ITEMS
REGULATORY COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING
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Item No.	Action	Date to be Completed
1.	Committee will work with NELAC Standing Committees to develop the Scope of Accreditation Proposal a. Proposal for Interim meeting b. Vote NELAC VII	
2.	Assess and report on EPA regulatory agenda April and October 2000.	
3.	Post examples of State regulations adopting NELAC by Interim meeting.	

**PARTICIPANTS
REGULATORY COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 27, 2000**

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